85. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 84 wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least 2 to 3 phosphorothioate linkages.

86. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 84 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

87. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 85 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

88. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 70, 71, 72, 73 or 74, wherein said anticode oligomer contains at least one phosphoramidate-modified nucleotide.

REMARKS

Claims 54 to 69 have been canceled. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in subsequent applications. Applicant submits that new claims 70 to 88 are fully supported in the specification as filed, examples of such support are as follows:

New Claim	**Support in specification**
70	Page 3, lines 6-10; page 12, lines 17-29; page 13, line 4
71, 73	Page 4, lines 16-26; page 13, line 7
72	Page 4, line 27 to page 5, line 7; page 13, line 10
74	Page 20, lines 15-17
75, 77, 80, 83, 86, 87	Page 14, lines 16-25
76, 82	Page 3, lines 27-34
78, 84	Page 39, lines 28-31; page 41, lines 27-30
79, 85	Page 41, lines 27-30
81, 88	Page 8, line 21 to page 9, line 3; page 13, line 19 to page 14, line 15

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 Second Paragraph Should Be Withdrawn

Claims 54, 56 and 57 stand rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. These claims have been canceled, without prejudice. New claims 70 to 88 more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention, and as such obviate the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 First Paragraph Should Be Withdrawn

Claims 54-69 stand rejected under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as containing subject matter which is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed.

New claims 70 to 88 are drawn to anticode oligomers which are from 10 to 40 bases in length and are complementary to a portion of SEQ ID NO:22 or a portion of SEQ ID NO:19.

Applicant respectfully points out that the instant specification discloses the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:22 (instant specification at page 4, lines 19-26 and Table 1, page 13) and the sequence of SEQ ID NO:19 (instant specification at page 4, lines 19-26 and Table 1, page 13).

Claim 74 relates to an anticode oligomer that is complementary to the 5'-untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:19 (full length sequence of the bcl-2 gene). The instant application provides the sequence corresponding to the open reading frame of the of bcl-2 gene (SEQ ID NO:20). Accordingly, one skilled in the art would be able to determine the portion of SEQ ID NO:19 that corresponds to the 5'-untranslated region of the bcl-2 gene. Furthermore, the

5'-untranslated region and splice acceptor and donor sites of the human bcl-2 gene were known in the art at the time of filing of the instant application (*see, e.g.*, Tsujimoto and Croce, 1986, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:5214-5218, Figure 3, attached hereto as Exhibit B).

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 70 to 88 are fully enabled by the specification as filed and that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application. Applicant believes that each ground for rejection or objection has been overcome or obviated, and that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of all outstanding rejections and objections is therefore respectfully requested. An early allowance is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

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Exhibit A

Claims pending in Serial No. 09/375,514 as of entry of the Amendment filed

53. An anticode oligomer complementary to bcl-2 mRNA consisting of from 18-35 bases and comprising the nucleotide sequence TCTCCCAGCGTGCGCCAT (SEQ ID NO:17).

70. (New) An anticode oligomer, wherein said anticode oligomer is from 10 to 40 bases in length and is complementary to a portion of SEQ ID NO:19.

71. (New) An anticode oligomer, wherein said anticode oligomer is from 10 to 40 bases in length and is complementary to a portion of SEQ ID NO:22.

72. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 70, wherein said anticode oligomer is an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a splice acceptor site of SEQ ID NO:19.

73. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 71, wherein said anticode oligomer is an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a splice donor site of SEQ ID NO:22.

74. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 70, wherein said anticode oligomer is 10 to 40 bases in length and is complementary to a 5'-untranslated region of SEQ ID NO:19.

75. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claims 53, 70, 71, 72, 73 or 74; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

76. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 53, wherein said anticode oligomer contains at least one phosphorothioate-modified nucleotide.

77. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 76; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

78. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 76, wherein said anticode oligomer is a phosphodiester/phosphorothioate chimera.

79. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 76 wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least 2 to 3 phosphorothioate linkages.

80. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 78 or 79; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

81. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 53, wherein said anticode oligomer contains at least one phosphoramidate-modified nucleotide.

82. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 70, 71, 72, 73 or 74, wherein said anticode oligomer contains at least one phosphorothioate-modified nucleotide.

83. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 82; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

84. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 82, wherein said anticode oligomer is a phosphodiester/phosphorothioate chimera.

85. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 84 wherein the oligonucleotide comprises at least 2 to 3 phosphorothioate linkages.

86. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 84 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

87. (New) A composition comprising the anticode oligomer of Claim 85 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

88. (New) The anticode oligomer of Claim 70, 71, 72, 73 or 74, wherein said anticode oligomer contains at least one phosphoramidate-modified nucleotide.